IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Before the Board of Patent Appeals and Interferences

In re the Application of

Inventors	:	**Reinhold G. Grellmann et al.**
Application No.	:	**10/713,600**
Filed	:	**November 13, 2003**
For	:	**REMOTE ULTRASOUND SYSTEM DIAGNOSTICS**

REPLY BRIEF

On Appeal from Group Art Unit 2113

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I. DISCUSSION

In the Answer the Examiner has confused and intermingled the subject matter of column 11, lines 14-28 of US Pat. 5,851,186 (Wood et al.) which deals with system diagnostics, with the subject matter of column 12, line 66 through column 13, line 8 which deals with medical diagnostics. The former refers to the maintenance and repair of hardware and software of an ultrasound system as performed by a serviceman (see col. 11, line 16), and the latter refers to the medical diagnosis of a patient's condition as performed by a physician (see col. 13, line 2). This patent deals with both the maintenance of the ultrasound machine and with the medical diagnosis that the ultrasound machine can perform in the hands of a physician. For the present appeal it is important to carefully distinguish between the two.

The passage spanning column 12, line 66 through column 13, line 8 of the patent deals with medical diagnosis. Here it is stated that certain medical diagnostic information, ultrasound images and patient report which were acquired and prepared using ultrasound systems on the local network, can be stored by and accessed through the local server, making this medical information available to a physician not present in the hospital or clinic, even when the ultrasound system is turned off. The local server is thus a central repository for the medical diagnostic information used by the physician.

In the ultrasound system diagnostics section in column 11, it is stated that a serviceman can perform diagnostics of the ultrasound system in either of two ways. One way is by dialing into the ultrasound system via modem from the serviceman's laptop computer, which allows the serviceman to service the ultrasound system remotely. System diagnostics can also be run from a remote terminal as described in col. 12, lines 60-65. The other way is by direct connection of a cable from the laptop computer to the ultrasound system, which can be done when the serviceman is on site. In all instances there is only interaction between the ultrasound system and the laptop computer or remote terminal as the serviceman performs system diagnostics, checks error logs, verifies configurations and software levels, and other system maintenance and repair activities. No central system diagnostics location is suggested or inferred throughout this discussion.

It is respectfully requested that the Board keep these two distinctly different uses of the term "diagnostic" in this patent in mind as it decides the present Appeal.

Respectfully submitted,

REINHOLD G. GRELLMANN ET AL.

By: W. Brinton Yorks

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TRANSMITTAL FORM

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First Named Inventor	Reinhold G. Grellmann
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ENCLOSURES *(Check all that apply)*

- ☐ Fee Transmittal Form
  - ☐ Fee Attached
- ☐ Amendment/Reply
  - ☐ After Final
  - ☐ Affidavits/declaration(s)
- ☐ Extension of Time Request
- ☐ Express Abandonment Request
- ☐ Information Disclosure Statement
- ☐ Certified Copy of Priority Document(s)
- ☐ Reply to Missing Parts/ Incomplete Application
  - ☐ Reply to Missing Parts under 37 CFR 1.52 or 1.53
- ☐ Drawing(s)
- ☐ Licensing-related Papers
- ☐ Petition
- ☐ Petition to Convert to a Provisional Application
- ☐ Power of Attorney, Revocation Change of Correspondence Address
- ☐ Terminal Disclaimer
- ☐ Request for Refund
- ☐ CD, Number of CD(s) _____
  - ☐ Landscape Table on CD
- ☐ After Allowance Communication to TC
- ☐ Appeal Communication to Board of Appeals and Interferences
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Printed name	W. Brinton Yorks, Jr.		
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